

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The die plate 42 is shown in more detail in Figs. 45 through 67. As will be common in the art, the die plate 42 has coupling means for coupling the die plate on an inner side thereof to the extruder 40, and these comprise a series of counter-sunk openings 80 equally spaced around the periphery of the die plate 42 through which mounting bolts 82 (Fig. 3) are received and threaded into cooperating threaded openings (not shown) provided on the extruder 40.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 20 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Both the hydraulic inlet passage 56 and hydraulic outlet passage 60 (only one of which is shown in ghost outline in the side elevation view of Fig 56) comprise a radial portion which extends radially from a peripheral edge 92 of the die plate 42 towards the central area 88 where the passages terminate in respective longitudinally-extending portions that terminate on the front side of the die plate 42 so as to communicate with respective passages provided in the hydraulic motor 52. O-ring seals (not shown) are seatable in the openings defining the hydraulic inlet passage and outlet passage 56, 60.